SOUTHERN CROSS

Vol. 78, No.40 | *Serving the Catholics of San Diego, Imperial counties* | Dec. 7, 1989

Martyrs

Catholics pray at Mass for the six murdered Jesuits and for peace in El Salvador.

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Protect life

Columnists says Catholics can't reconcile both a pro-life, pro-choice position.

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Finances

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Fight back

Three area parishes meet with police to combat drugs, other crimes in their neighborhoods.

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Pope - Gorbachev set meaty agenda for future



CNS photo from UPI-Reuters

HISTORIC MEETING — Pope John Paul II and Soivet President Mikail S. Gorvbachev confer during their Dec. 1 summit at the Vatican, the first talks ever between the two leaders. Their summit set a meaty agenda for further talks in the 1990s.

By Agostino Bono
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The historic summit meeting between Pope John Paul II and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev set a meaty agenda for church-state talks in the 1990s.

The agenda includes establishment of diplomatic relations, religious freedom for Catholics and a papal visit to the Soviet Union.

At the first encounter between the supreme leaders of the Catholic Church and Soviet Union Dec. 1, both men also made clear that they wanted dialogue and mutual respect to replace confrontation and ideological rhetoric as the foundations of their new relationship.

The attitude was symbolized by Gorbachev's pledge to guarantee religious freedom and a papal pledge to support the Soviet president's reform program, called "perestroika," as long as it respects human rights and helps ensure world peace.

The meeting at the Vatican also showed Gorbachev's high regard for the role of the pope as a stabilizing moral force in world affairs. The Polish pope and the Russian president are both Slavs who see the world from the East European perspective.

The visit to the pope was sandwiched between Gorbachev's call during a Nov. 29-Dec. 1 visit to Italy for a major meeting next year to redefine European security issues in the wake of crumbling support for Communist governments in East Europe and the Soviet leader's Dec. 2-3 summit with President Bush to symbolically end the Cold War and promise action on world issues.

Gorbachev "sees the role which the Holy See can play in bringing about a world in which there is a greater possibility of peace, of the development of peoples, a greater solidarity among nations," said Archbishop

Please turn to page 8

Bishop Brom tells press he stands for truth, life

By Dan E. Pitre
Southern Cross

SAN DIEGO — "I stand for the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, which is the basis to live a life of love and service," Coadjutor Bishop Robert H. Brom told members of the San Diego Press Club during their Headliner's luncheon Nov. 30.

In that regard, he said, he was not much "unlike news media people."

Bishop Brom said he also stands "for life. The protection of life from attack is a human imperative that is not exclusively Catholic."

The former Duluth, Minn. bishop, who officially became coadjutor bishop of San Diego with right of succession July 24, spoke on the subject of truth at the luncheon at the Horton Plaza Hotel.

"These are days when the truth is taking a beating," Bishop Brom said.

He related a conversation he had with Pope John Paul in which he told the pontiff that the pope, like the truth, "is never popular but is always attractive."

"'Tell the pope what that means,'" the bishop related, quoting the pope. "'I think I know. Jesus was never popular but was always attractive,'" the pontiff said.

Bishop Brom told the Press Club members, "I am committed to the truth at every level. There can be no authentic love or genuine service that is not rooted in truth.

"How many efforts are made to be of service but without regard for truth, so truth is disserved?" he asked.

Bishop Brom quoted ABC newsman Ted Koppel in a 1987 speech at Duke University: "'We have actually convinced ourselves that slogans will save us. 'Shoot up if you must, but use a clean needle.' 'Enjoy sex whenever and with whomever you can, but wear a condom.'

"'No! The answer is no! Not because it isn't cool or smart or because you might end up in jail or dying in an AIDS ward, but because it's wrong; because we have spent 5,000 years as a race of rational human beings, trying to drag ourselves out of the primeval slime by searching for truth and moral absolutes.

"'In its purest form, truth is not a polite tap on the should. It is a howling reproach. What Moses brought down from Mount Sinai were not The Ten Suggestions,'" Bishop Brom said, quoting Koppel.

Bishop Brom told the press, "Acceptance of the truth is necessary for the survival of the human race. To stand for truth is to stand for the survival of the human race."

He noted the specific order of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" in the Declaration of Independence as unalienable rights endowed on humankind by its Creator.

"I'm so radically for life, if I must give up a moment of happiness for life, I must do that," he said indicating life must come first.

After his talk, in response to a question regarding Bishop Maher's imposed sanction on Assemblywoman Lucy Killea, banning her from receiving Communion because of her pro-choice stand in the public forum, Bishop Brom said no bishop wants to impose sanctions. He said he hopes he will never have to do that.

Asked if the sanction on Killea will continue after he becomes the ordinary, Bishop Brom said if the matter comes up, he would invite her to talk with him in private. After the meeting "she would make a statement."

World Marriage Dayset

MASSACHUSETTS — The United States Senate and congress will vote this year on a proclamation that would recognize the second in February as World Marriage Day.

In promotion of World Marriage Day, slated for Feb. 11, 1990, three contests will be held:

The search for the longest married couple — Anyone interested in nominating a couple should send the couple name address, phone number and number of years married to Lee and Jan Walters, 81 E. Torrance Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43214, or call (614) 262-3151. Deadline is Dec. 15.

Certificates will be awarded to all nominated couples.

An essay contest — 500 words or less, focusing on "Why I Believe in Marriage," may be submitted to Mike and Donna Hebert, 1084 Cedar Bend, Baton Rouge, La., 70814, or call (504) 272-0104. All entries must be postmarked by Dec. 15.

The Cupid Award — attempts to select the TV commercial product which best exemplifies the traditional values of marriage. Suggestions should include name of product, a summary of the content of the commercial, and reasons for selection. Send entries to Robert and Carol Pawelski, 88 second St., North Andover, Mass, 01845. Deadline is Dec. 15.

World Marriage Day began in 1981 in Baton Rouge, La. Since that time it has grown to national proportions and has expanded into Canada, France and Venezuela.



Photo by Larry Plaster

PREPARE TO EAT —San Diego philanthropist Joan Kroc, center, and her two granddaughters, Amy,left, and Amanda, were among the many volunteers who served Thanksgiving breakfast to San Diego's homeless at the St. Vincent de Paul/Joan Kroc Center. Kroc was not scheduled to participate in the event but according to Msgr. Joseph Carroll, president of the shelter, when she awoke that morning, "she was so thankful for having her whole family together, she wanted to do something for someone else."Some 250 volunteers work at the center in such tasks as checking clients in and out, tutoring and serving food.

Holy Family parish to host 'Simbang Gabi'

LINDA VISTA — The Novena Masses of "Simbang Gabi," a religious tradition of the Philippine Islands, will be celebrated Dec. 15 through Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m., at Holy Family Church, Linda Vista. The liturgies will be celebrated in English and in Filipino dialects.

"Simbang Gabi," or Night Mass, was adopted from the Spanish tradition. The Filipino people prepare for Christmas by a novena of Masses usually celebrated early in the evening.

Mid-City orchestra to perform at local church

IMPERIAL BEACH — St. Charles Church and St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Imperial Beach will sponsor the Mid-City Community Orchestra in "A Joyful Carol" Dec. 17, & p.m., at St. Charles.

This year's yuletide concert will include works of Schubert, Saint-Saens and selections from Tschiakovsky's "Nutcracker Suite."

The Mid-City Community Orchestra is part of the San Diego Community College Continuing Education Program. Admission is free but donations will be accepted.

For further information, call 423-0242.

St. Francis School volunteer honored

VISTA — Mary Ann Pinamonti was recognized for her role as chairman of the St. Francis School 1989 Century Club Ball, the school's largest fund-raising event.

Pinamonti was named Philanthropy Volunteer of the Year 1989 by the North San Diego County Philanthropy Council at a November luncheon.

Pinamonti said, "I appreciate being acknowledged, but a charity ball can only be accomplished with the help of many people. I accept the honor on behalf of the whole Century Club Ball committee."

Currently she is acting chairperson for the 1990 school fund-raiser, a Mardi Gras Ball.

Filipino singing group to perform two shows

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Fil-Am Peace and Harmony Singers, a 55-voice Filipino choir, will perform two Christmas shows Dec. 9 at La Quinta de Guadalupe, 938 18th St., at 3 and 7 p.m.

Directed by Pablito Tejada, a parishioner at Good Shepherd Church, Mira Mesa, the group will perform traditional Christmas carols as well as Filipino Christmas carols, and the cantata, "The Glory of Christmas."

The concert is sponsored by the Filipino Cursillo Movement. Tickets for the two hour concert may be purchased at the door for $7.50. For audition information,call Virginia Tejada, 578-4552.

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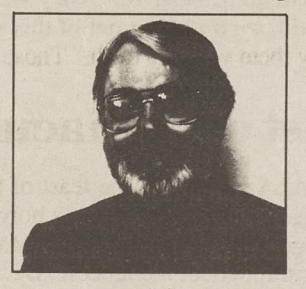
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Diocese remembers six slain Jesuits at Mass

By Rose Sheehan
Special to Southern Cross

SAN DIEGO — Prayerful unity was the intention, and prayerful unity was evident at a special Mass on Friday, Dec. 1, dedicated to the six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter who were murdered in El Salvador on Nov. 16.

The Mass was concelebrated by Bishop Leo T. Maher, Auxiliary Bishop Gilbert Chavez and 12 other priests at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, San Diego, where pastor Rev. Richard Brown and two associates are Jesuits.

The deaths of the six Jesuits, who were scholars at the University of Central America in San Salvador, leaves "a great vacuum of love" for the people they meant to serve—the poor and downtrodden, Bishop Maher said in opening remarks at the Mass.

About 250 people came to the Mass, singing boldly and joining Bishop Maher in his hope that "prayers will replace guns ... and peace will come to El Salvador."

That message also rang through in the homily by Father Michael Mandela, a Jesuit and pastor of Christ the King Church in Southeast San Diego.

From data gathered in San Salvador, the Jesuits there believed the eight murders were instigated and carried out by soldiers supported by American dollars, Father Mandela said.

"These Jesuits were not soldiers; they were scholars," he said. "They had conversations on both sides (of the Salvadoran civil war). They were using their minds for the common good ... trying to bring about a negotiated peace in El Salvador."

Both Bishop Maher and Father Mandela said they hope this tragedy wakes up Americans to the reality that 70,000 people have been victimized by the 10-year civil war.

Father Mandela recalled the words of John's Gospel, which seemed to eulogize the eight martyrs of Nov. 16: "They are not of this world, even as I am not of this world... Sanctify them with the truth." Those words, Father Mandela said, "force us to think of choices about our lives."

Those choices involve two things, he said: praying and asking political questions, such as why is the United States sending billions of dollars in aid to a government that can't guarantee basic rights to its people, and why doesn't the United States use its power to push the Salvadoran government to negotiate a peace?

He scorned El Salvador's government for not having captured the assassins of Archbishop Oscar Romero, dead now for 10 years after being shot during Mass in that country. For those who continue to try to do God's work in that country and are subject to repeated death threats—as were the recently slain Jesuits— life is "the continuation of the passion of Jesus," he said.

Coincidentally, Dec. 1 also was a memorial day for English martyrs, including Jesuits, who lived during the Reformation.

Father Mandela delivered his sermon in English, then summarized it in Spanish. The congregation at Our Lady of Guadalupe is predominantly Hispanic.

Father Mandela also thanked Bishop Maher for inspiring the special Mass as a chance to show "prayerful unity" with the church in El Salvador and to sympathize with the local Jesuit community in the loss of their brothers.

Before Mass ended, Father Brown read a statement from the Jesuit provincial in Central America. The statement tersely called for justice to come of the situation.

The Society of Jesus is convinced that if a crime like this goes unpunished, peace will not come to El Salvador, the statement said. The Jesuits are demanding that a quick and diligent investigation be undertaken by the El Salvador government, he read.

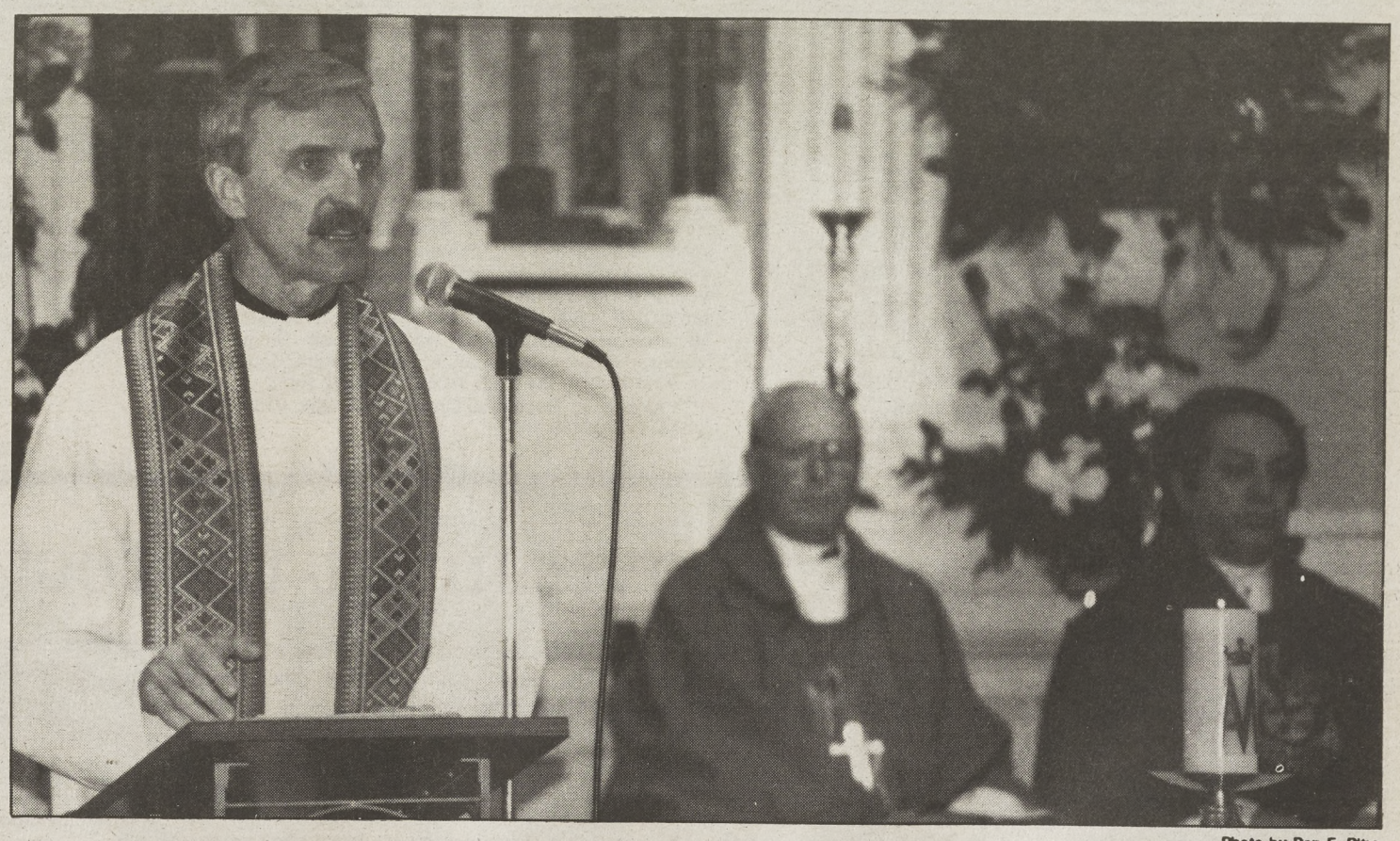


Photo by Dan E. Pitre

SPECIAL MASS — Father Michael Mandela, SJ, pastor at Christ the King parish, San Diego, mourns the loss of six fellow Jesuits, who were murdered in El Salvador recently, during a homily at a Mass Dec. 1, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, San Diego. Bishop Leo T. Maher, center, was the principal celebrant and Auxiliary Bishop Gilbert E. Chavez was among the 12 concelebrants.

Feast of Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8

ALCALA PARK — The feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a holy day of obligation, will be celebrated in Masses in parishes throughout the diocese, Dec. 8.

The feast proclaims Mary's freedom from original sin, beginning with the moment of her conception.

Pope Pius IX, in 1854 decreed that "the most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by the singular grace and privilege of almighty God and in view of the merits of Christ Jesus the Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin, as revealed by God and, therefore, firmly and constantly to be believed by all the faithful.

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception declares that Mary "was exempt in a unique and exceptional way from the normal and the usual impact of sin, or more positively, that she was given a greater degree of grace in view of her role as the 'God-bearer'" ("Catholicism," Richard P. McBrien).

Msgr. Daniel Dillabough, judicial vicar of the Diocese of San Diego, said, "The significance (of the feast) is honoring Mary and giving thanks for the pledge of Christ to save us."

In Loving Memory

Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend the spirits of these beloved ones who are gone before us into the realm of Thy eternal happiness and peace. Amen.

FRANCES C. RYAN Funeral Mass; Nov. 20, 1989 at Nazareth House.

HECTOR T. VERDUGO Funeral Mass; Nov. 28, 1989 at St. Martin's.

CHARLES EGGLETON Funeral Mass; Nov. 29, 1989 at Our Lady of Grace.

HECTOR DIONICIO Funeral Mass; Nov. 27, 1989 at St. Patrick's.

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Korea—an Asian Miracle

Korea is a country much in the news. It was the scene for the last Summer Olympics, and the capital, Seoul, is a growing world center and a window on the vast millions of Asia, including China.

Seoul was not only the city for the last Olympics, but recently it hosted the last Eucharist Congress of the Catholic church and the pope's final Mass at the Congress was concelebrated by no less than 1500 clergy and attended by a million persons.

Celebrating 200 years of Christianity – the first baptism and the first martyr were in 1784 and 1785 respectively – the church has struggled through persecutions and martyrdom and 20 years ago received its first cardinal. During the earlier persecutions of the 19th century some 16,000 suffered death for their faith and earlier in this century Catholics suffered greatly at the hands of the Japanese and North Korean Marxists.

Korea is still divided, with an estimated 50,000 Catholics in the North and about two million Catholics in the South, with their witness as a modern Asian miracle.

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Stop arms to El Salvador

Approximately one month ago, we viewed the movie "Romero" and were stunned at the graphic portrayal of violent expression by the existing government of El Salvador. During the past 10 years, 70,000 people have died, with two-thirds being innocent civilian victims killed by paramilitary death squads and government security forces. Archbishop Oscar Romero himself was assassinated as he celebrated Mass in March, 1980.

Thursday, Nov. 16, six Jesuit priests and two innocent female witnesses were murdered by unknown men dressed as government soldiers. The most incredible part of this horror story is that the U.S. government has financed these troops with $4 billion in military and economic aid since 1980 — $85 million in 1989. Supposedly, this was to prevent the spread of Communism which was backing rebel troops

SOUTHERN CROSS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

against the Salvadoran government. It is time for this madness to end!

We urge every Roman Catholic member of the San Diego diocese to write a letter to your Congressman (with a copy to President Bush) so we can end American financing of this senseless war. The bloodshed in El Salvador is a key issue that should be addressed during the talks at Malta between President Bush and Premier Gorbachev.

We should all offer a daily prayer for the valiant missionaries of all Christian faiths, both priests and laity, who daily risk torture and martyrdom in their fight against social injustice in El Salvador. The church continues to be persecuted in Central America but the struggle for human rights cannot be abandoned. The sign near the home of those Jesuits recently martyred gives us strength: "If they kill me, I will be resurrected in the Salvadoran people."

Larry and Mary Campbell
San Diego

More education needed

As an educated Catholic woman I am both concerned and dismayed by statements recently made by Catholic jurors being interviewed (San Diego Union, Nov. 9, 1989) regarding their thinking on their moral and legal responsibility as persons who realize that abortion is murder.

These Catholic jurors were unable to base their decision in this case on any principle other than simple obedience to civil law, regardless of how inhuman, vicious and unjust that law might be.

While the jurors expressed both understanding and belief that abortion is reprehensible, they expressed no understanding of the principle that an unjust law is not morally binding. The law of this country for 16 years has been utterly devoid of justice to an entire segment of our population — indeed, 26 million of the most vulnerable, fragile and innocent among us have been tortured and killed at the will of their mothers and doctors.

For men and women — at great personal risk and tremendous cost, without the slightest motive or possibility of personal gain — to place their bodies and lives in the foot-stomping path of those who are walking into clinics to continue these atrocities is an act of the highest moral choice: to judge such persons guilty is an outrage.

I have personally wondered for months how any intelligent, sincere Catholic could not feel compelled to stand in active opposition to these horrible realities that are going on daily in our cities. My conclusion? Many of us lack the courage, the compassion and the conviction.

As one who teaches moral development to adult Catholics and who works with many Christian families in their efforts to live good, happy, healthy lives, I am filled with sadness and a need to respond. We must dive deeper in our understanding of the principles of moral living, thinking and decision-making if we are to survive as the people of God in a society where moral living and thinking are not supported by the law.

Mara J. Grimes, Ph.D.
La Mesa

Bishop defends God's truth

Two weeks ago I sent you a letter critical of the bishop for his failure to take action against a department head at USD who appeared from public reports to be pro-choice.

Today, I would like to thank and congratulate that same bishop for his stand against a Catholic state legislator who, in spite of a claimed personal belief that abortion is wrong, was running blatantly pro-choice political ads in San Diego.

His action caused a storm of abuse and ridicule to be heaped on his head, allegedly because he breached the state/church barrier by the action he took.

Please turn to page 5

Govt. must protect all life

MY POINT OF VIEW
by FR. GERALD D. COLEMAN

There is a growing and even mounting concern in the Catholic community in this country regarding the church's stance on abortion and those Catholics (as well as others) who follow either a pro-life or a pro-choice stance.

This concern is of paramount importance for the unity of our Catholic community and calls for certain clear moral perspectives.

First: The church's clear position on direct abortion may be located in these two documents from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (Rome): "Declaration on Procured Abortion" (1974) and "Instruction on Respect for Human Life in Its Origin and on the Dignity of Procreation" (1987).

The teaching is unequivocable that life begins at conception and all life from this moment of conception is "innocent," and must be protected from all undue harm.

Second: Today, there are many threats to life at its various stages of existence.

The church's resistance to these threats is linked by a foundational dedication to the sacredness of human life. The church thus upholds a consistent ethic of life.

Sensitivity to any particular threat to this sacredness of life will be enhanced by a deepened sensitivity to all threats that are posed to life.

The credibility of the church's stand on any particular life issue will be strengthened by its consistent commitment to all life issues.

Third: In Catholic moral theology, a fetus is to be considered as a human person. Pope Paul VI named the fetus as a person in the process of becoming.

To perform an abortion, with the exception of acting under the principle of double effect on threats to the life of the mother, is to directly take an innocent human life.

The mounting problem is that in the public mind, the fetus enjoys less than a categorical claim to protection. This "categorical claim" differs greatly depending upon one's stance on the abortion issue: e.g., those who hold an uncritically pro-abortion stance, permitting abortion under any circumstances; and those who take a pro-maternal stance which upholds the rights of the mother to make decisions regarding the fetus.

Fourth: Is it possible for a Catholic to reconcile a pro-life and a pro-choice posture?

Those who maintain that it is possible to be a Catholic and not uphold a pro-life position argue that from a moral point of view abortion is generally wrong and we all have a responsibility to protect innocent human life.

The argument continues, however, that the public law is not the most effective way of changing public opinion about abortion and thus a Catholic can have a stance against abortion while upholding laws which make abortion possible.

I feel that this is not a reasonable nor acceptable stance.

In these days of slavery, e.g., if one held the immorality of slavery, then one would have to vote for laws against this institution.

Presently, in the South Africa, if one holds for the immorality of apartheid, it is necessary to vote for laws which protect the dignity of all human individuals, no matter what their race.

Fifth: We must recognize that many women do suffer a great deal in this whole abortion issue. At the same time, it is government's function to protect all life and thus suffering cannot justify the taking of innocent human life.

Sulpician Father Gerald D. Coleman is rector of St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park.

El Salvador: it's time to stop

MAKING PEACE
by IVAN J. KAUFFMAN

Six Jesuit missionary priests were pulled from their beds at 3 a.m., tortured, then shot in the head. Their housekeeper and her 15-year-old daughter were also shot to make sure there were no witnesses. The murderers then dragged the corpses into the front lawn and mutilated them.

The victims were not youthful radicals. Four of the priests were in their 50's. The youngest was 47 and the oldest 71. Nor were they political activists. They were academics, including the president and vice-president of El Salvador's leading university, and the former head of El Salvador's seminary.

Nor were they the first church leaders to be murdered in El Salvador. Nine years ago the Archbishop of San Salvador was killed while celebrating Mass. A few months later three nuns and a lay woman volunteer from the U.S. were raped and murdered. Dozens of other priests and lay church leaders have been killed in the past decade. Some 60,000 ordinary people, most of them Catholics and many of them children, have been killed in this decade of blood-letting.

What is going on here? The easy answer is to blame it all on the Communists. But the fact is it's not Communists who are murdering El Salvador's church leaders — it's members of El Salvador's army.

Salvadoran soldiers were convicted of murdering the four American churchwomen, and are now in jail. There is conclusive proof the Salvadoran army was responsible for Archbishop Romero's murder, although that killer has never been brought to trial. Archbishop Rivera y Damas of San Salvador says he believes the army was responsible for murdering the six priests this month.

Why would the army kill church leaders? Because the church stands for human rights, and a tiny privileged class in El Salvador wants to keep the rest of the population in economic slavery. Church leaders are being killed in El Salvador today for the same reason civil rights workers were killed in the United States in the 1960's.

The church in El Salvador, especially since the martyrdom of Archbishop Romero, stands with the poor — and it is paying the price. Only two days after the six priests were killed, El Salvador's attorney general sent a letter to Pope John Paul threatening to kill El Salvador's bishops if they didn't leave the country.

Behind this story of mass murder and political terror stands a truly evil leader named Roberto d'Aubuisson, the head of El Salvador's death squads. Archbishop Rivera y Damas claims d'Aubuisson was responsible for Archbishop Romero's death, and a former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador has described him as a "pathological killer."

The most incredible thing about this bloody story is that we're paying for it. In the past 10 years more than $4 billion of our tax dollars have been sent to El Salvador, mostly to buy weapons for the army which d'Aubuisson controls.

Before he was killed, Archbishop Romero wrote to President Jimmy Carter asking the U.S. to suspend military aid to the Salvadoran government. The guns were being used to kill innocent civilians, Archbishop Romero said.

A short time later, one of the guns we provided the Salvadoran army was used to kill Archbishop Romero himself. A few months later U.S. weapons killed four U.S. women. U.S. guns were used to murder the six Jesuit priests this month.

We didn't listen to Archbishop Romero's plea and tens of thousands of innocent people died as a result.

It's high time to stop all military aid to El Salvador. If the Salvadoran army wants to keep on murdering their priests, archbishops, missionaries and college presidents at least they can do it with somebody else's bullets.

Ivan J. Kauffman writes from Washington, D.C., on public affairs for the Catholic press.

Diocesan Financial Statement

Diocesan Funds of the Roman Catholic Bishop of San Diego



St. Mary Church, El Centro, dedicated May 5, 1989. (Photo by Jim Carr)

Diocesan Office
for Apostolic Ministry / Alcala Park

December 5, 1989

My dear People of God:

With great gratitude I acknowledge your generosity and your support of the diocesan ministries and the Stewardship Program of 1989. We had an exceptional year of many activities, especially with our emphasis on ministering to one another. The various parishes have evangelization programs to meet the local needs and allow the laity to be involved in their ministry.

Not only financially have you been committed to the growth of the Church, but you likewise have committed yourselves to building the parochial community, which has brought very salutary results to the members of the faith community. Such strong faith touches every part of life. Faith as the glue in life becomes most evident through your prayer and worship, personal testimony and your faith community. Living the Gospel makes you realize the Gospel story demonstrates light and darkness, hope in the midst of the struggle. Integration of your personal faith with your daily life has proved a powerful witness.

It is inspiring for me, as the Bishop of San Diego, to see such wonderful growth -- spiritually and materially, and this is due to your own great efforts, devotion and love of the Church.

With renewed thanks and appreciation, I remain

Cordially yours in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher

+Leo T. Maher
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:ea

Post Office Box 80428, San Diego, California 92138-0428 / Telephone (619) 574-6300



Bishop Leo T. Maher receives a warm greeting.

Diocesan Office Funds of the Roman Catholic Bishop of San Diego

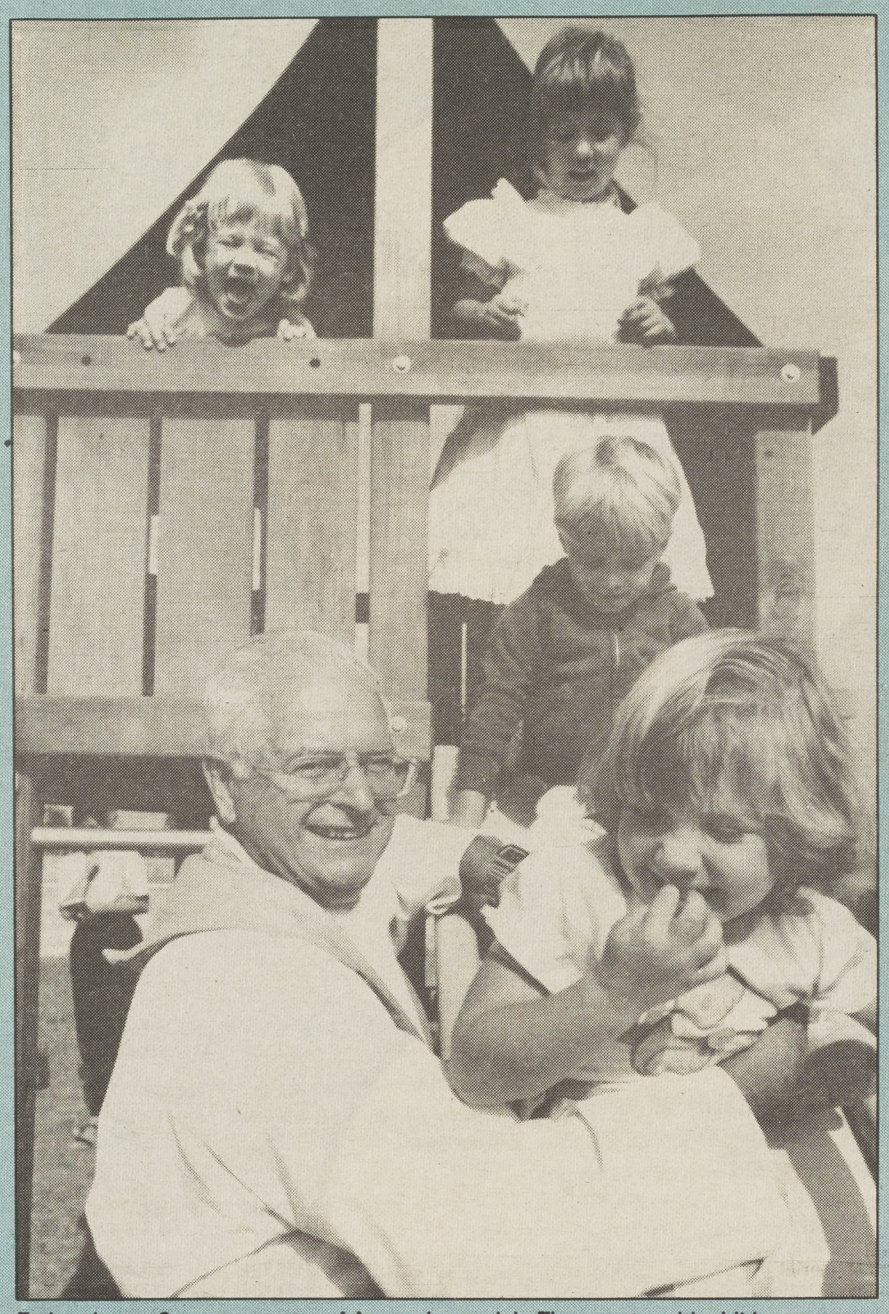
BALANCE SHEETS
June 30, 1989 and 1988

ASSETS	1989	1988	LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES (NOTE 1)	1989	1988
			CURRENT FUNDS - OPERATING		
Cash	$ 519,727	$ 610,261	Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 1,256,502	$ 1,128,177
Certificates of deposit	1,047,368	1,120,080	Commitments (Notes 4 and 5)		
Accounts receivable from other Diocesan entities (less allowance for doubtful accounts of $322,000 and $250,000, respectively)	219,141	338,009	Fund balances: Restricted: Holy Cross development	442,000	123,179
Notes and accounts receivable (less allowance for doubtful accounts of $10,000 in 1988)	224,448	273,181	Other	501,369	450,534
Due from deposit and loan fund	530,132	-	Unrestricted designated - employee benefits	340,945	639,641
	$ 2,540,816	$ 2,341,531	Total fund balances	1,284,314	1,213,354
				$ 2,540,816	$ 2,341,531
			QUASI - ENDOWMENT FUND		
			Fund balances: Holy Cross Cemetery	$ 2,634,454	$ 2,382,638
			Seminary endowment	630,145	600,742
Marketable securities (at market)	$ 3,264,599	$ 2,983,380	Total fund balances	$ 3,264,599	$ 2,983,380
			DEVELOPMENT FUND (Note 4)		
Cash	$ 500,000	$ 715,453			
Certificates of deposit	5,197,105	3,363,918			
Marketable securities (at market)	4,631,766	3,141,349			
	$10,328,871	$ 7,220,720	Fund balance	$10,328,871	$ 7,220,720
			PLANT FUND (Note 3)		
Land, buildings and equipment, at cost, less accumulated depreciation	$ 5,151,591	$ 5,804,534	Fund balance	$ 5,151,591	$ 5,804,534
			DEPOSIT AND LOAN FUND (Note 2)		
Certificates of deposit	$ -	$ 88,437	Accounts payable	$ 403,155	$ 209,453
			Due to current fund	530,132	-
Loans receivable (less allowance for doubtful accounts of $596,000 and $495,000, respectively)	12,335,889	10,480,693	Parish funds on deposit (Note 4)	11,402,602	10,359,677
	$12,335,889	$10,569,130		$12,335,889	$10,569,130
			BEQUEST, ENDOWMENT, CUSTODIAL AND TRUST FUNDS		
Certificates of deposit	$ 527,580	$ 339,921	Trust funds	$ 950,036	$ 924,372
			Fund balances: Sacred Heart Memorial	455,794	265,286
Cash in trust fund	950,036	924,372	Custodial funds	71,786	74,635
			Total fund balances	527,580	339,921
	$ 1,477,616	$ 1,264,293		$ 1,477,616	$ 1,264,293

See accompanying notes.



Four men ordained to the priesthood at San Rafael Church, Rancho Bernardo, July 1, 1989. (Photo by Dan E. Pitre)



Father James Sassone, pastor of Ascension parish, Tierrasanta, with children at opening of parish's pre-school, April 10, 1989. Photo by Joan Farenthold

Ernst & Young

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San Diego, California 92101-3768
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Report of Independent Public Accountants

Most Reverend Leo T. Maher
Bishop of San Diego

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of the Diocesan Office Funds of The Roman Catholic Bishop of San Diego at June 30, 1989 and 1988. These financial statements are the responsibility of Diocesan management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the balance sheets referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Diocesan Office Funds of The Roman Catholic Bishop of San Diego at June 30, 1989 and 1988, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

As discussed in Note 1, the Diocesan Office is only part of the operations of the Corporation Sole of the Diocese of San Diego.

Ernst & Young

September 15, 1989

Diocesan Office Funds of the Roman Catholic Bishop of San Diego
NOTES TO BALANCE SHEETS
June 30, 1989

1. Basis of presentation

Organization and activities - The Diocesan Office of The Roman Catholic Bishop of San Diego is part of the Corporation Sole of the Diocese of San Diego and has no separate legal status or existence. The Diocesan Office activities comprise the collection of parish assessments, stewardship contributions and certain other receipts which are used to finance educational, religious, community and human development programs in addition to the administration of the Catholic Diocese of San Diego.

The Diocesan Office Funds exclude the activities of parishes, schools, cemeteries and certain other ministerial functions. Each of these activities, though it reports to the Bishop, is an operating entity distinct from the Diocesan Office.

Fund balances - Diocesan funds are segregated according to their availability for use in Diocesan operations. Restricted funds have been reserved for specific purposes and in some cases can be disbursed only in compliance with restrictions specified by donors. Quasi-endowment and development funds are those funds segregated by the Bishop for the specific uses indicated.

2. Deposit and loan fund

The Diocesan Office administers a loans-in-aid program which finances the construction of parish and other Diocesan facilities. Loans, which bear interest at 6%, are repaid when Diocesan entities have excess funds available. These loans are made primarily from loan repayments and deposits by Diocesan entities which bear interest at 5%.

3. Plant fund

Land, buildings and equipment of the plant fund consist of the following at June 30, 1989 and 1988:

	1989	1988
Land	$ 2,916,322	$ 3,417,650
Buildings	3,445,460	3,445,460
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	649,683	632,191
Total	7,011,465	7,495,301
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,859,874)	(1,690,767)
Net land, buildings and equipment	$ 5,151,591	$ 5,804,534

Depreciation is provided on the straight-line basis over estimated useful lives of ten to thirty years for buildings and ten years for furniture, fixtures and equipment.

4. Commitments

Development fund commitments - The Diocesan building committee has approved the construction of parish facilities with estimated construction costs to complete totalling $8,250,519 as of June 30, 1989. The parishes and other Diocesan institutions have $1,554,822 on deposit at the Diocesan office at June 30, 1989. Accordingly, $4,009,278 from the unrestricted Current Fund balance has been allocated to the Development Fund to meet these commitments.

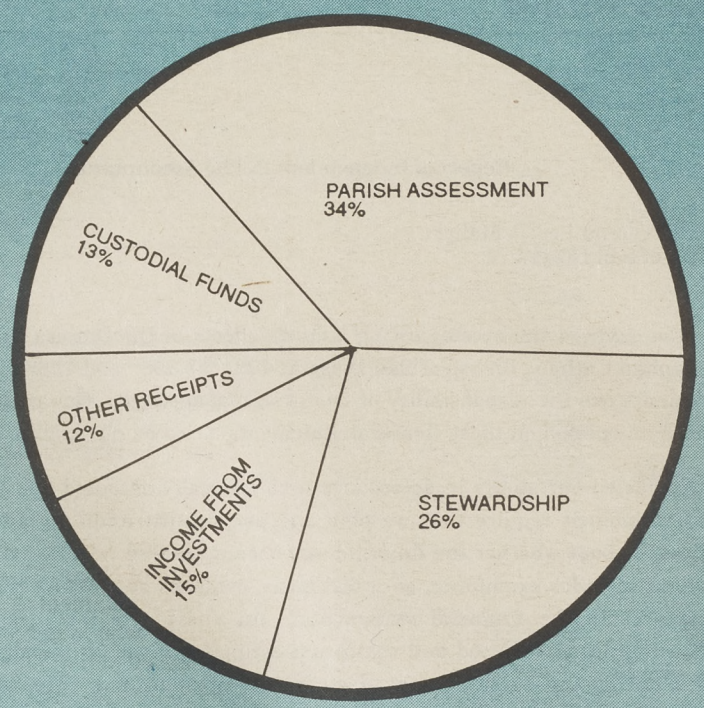
Scholarship fund - The Bishop of San Diego has established a scholarship fund for the University of San Diego in the amount of $100,000 annually in lieu of the repayment of $1,657,533 previously owed by the University to the Diocese which has been charged to the fund balance. The scholarship fund is to be used for students from the Dioceses of San Diego and San Bernardino and other areas.

Guarantee - The Bishop of San Diego has guaranteed the repayment of Marian High School's $842,158 payable to the Educational Funding Service General Fund. Educational Funding Service bills and collects tuition and other fees for two high schools of The Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego Education and Welfare Corporation.

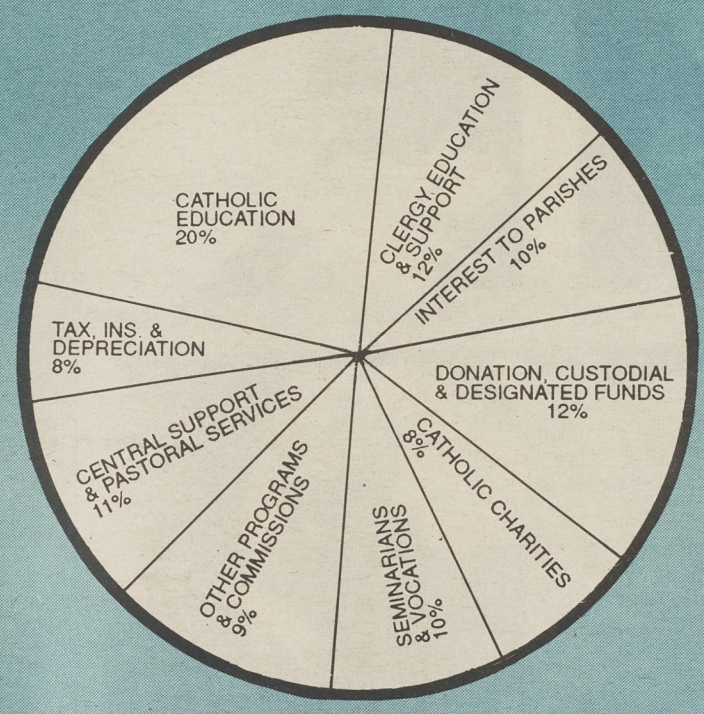
Diocesan Financial Statement

1989

WHERE FUNDS COME FROM

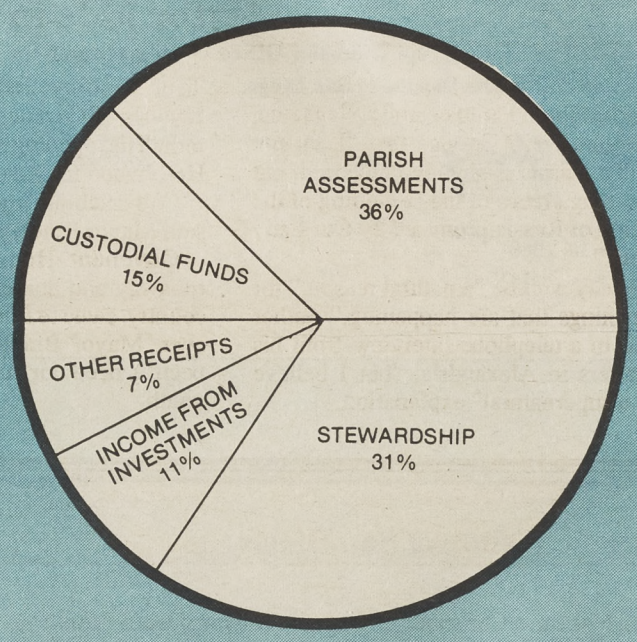


WHERE FUNDS GO

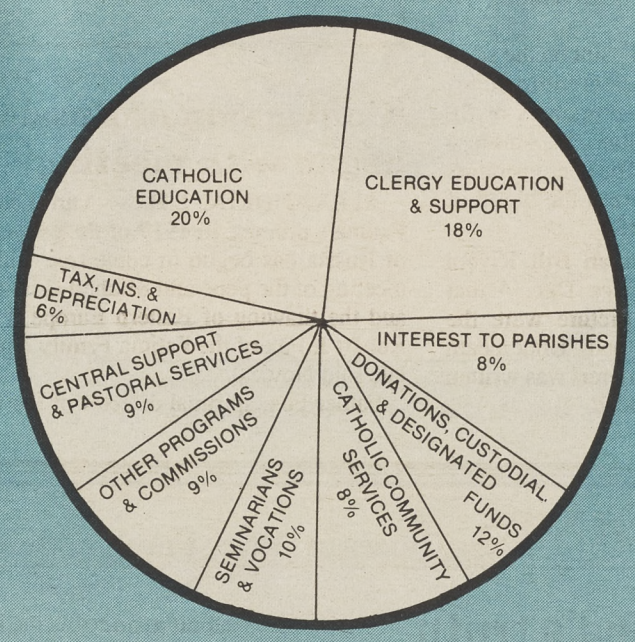


1988

WHERE FUNDS COME FROM



WHERE FUNDS GO



Statistics from the Official Catholic Directory 1989

Bishop	1
Coadjutor Bishop	1
Auxiliary Bishop	1
Abbot	1
Priests: Diocesan active in diocese	151
Priests: Active outside diocese	13
Priests: Diocesan in Foreign Missions	1
Priests: Retired, sick or absent	55
Number of Diocesan Priests	220
Religious Priests in Diocese	81
Extern Priests in Diocese	49
Total Priests in Diocese	301
Ordinations:	
Diocesan Priests	4
Transitional Deacon	1
Permanent Deacons	4
Permanent Deacons in Diocese	77
Total Brothers	22
Total Sisters	443
Parishes	98
With Resident Pastor:	
Resident Diocesan Priests	87
Resident Religious Priests	11
Missions	13
Pastoral Centers	29
Catholic Hospital	1
Total Assisted	231,733
Home for Special Care	2
Total Assisted	224
Nurseries	3
Total Assisted	130
Orphanage and Child Welfare Center	1
Total Assisted	59
Protection of Life and Family Center	1
Total Assisted	4,750
Various Institution	1
Total Assisted	9,000
Seminary, Diocesan	1
Students from this Diocese	14
Students of Diocese in other Seminaries	14
Total Seminarians	28
College and University	1
Total Students	5,858
High Schools, Diocesan and Parochial	3
Total Students	1,834
High Schools, Private	2
Total Students	1,090
Elementary Schools, Diocesan & Parochial	45
Total Students	11,722
Elementary School, Private	1
Total Students	322
Protective Institution	2
Total Students	157
Confraternity of Christian Doctrine:	
High School Students	5,937
Elementary Students	19,755
Total Students under Catholic Instruction	46,703
Teachers in the Diocese:	
Priests	26
Brothers	3
Sisters	99
Lay Teachers	643
Baptisms:	
Infant	10,017
Converts	681
Total Baptisms	10,698
Marriages:	
Catholic	1,775
Mixed	804
Total Marriages	2,579
Deaths	2,184
Total Catholic Population	462,802
Total Population	2,394,400

Churches vandalized over AIDS issue

LOS ANGELES — Protesters vandalized four Los Angeles churches with paint and posters accusing Los Angeles Archbishop Roger M. Mahony of being a "murderer" for his opposition to condom use, a position the protesters said helps spread AIDS.

Archbishop Mahony, in a statement released Dec. 4, said it was "both sad and ironic that those who will not accept God's revelation as taught faithfully by the Catholic Church with respect to human sexuality would attack God's houses within Los Angeles."

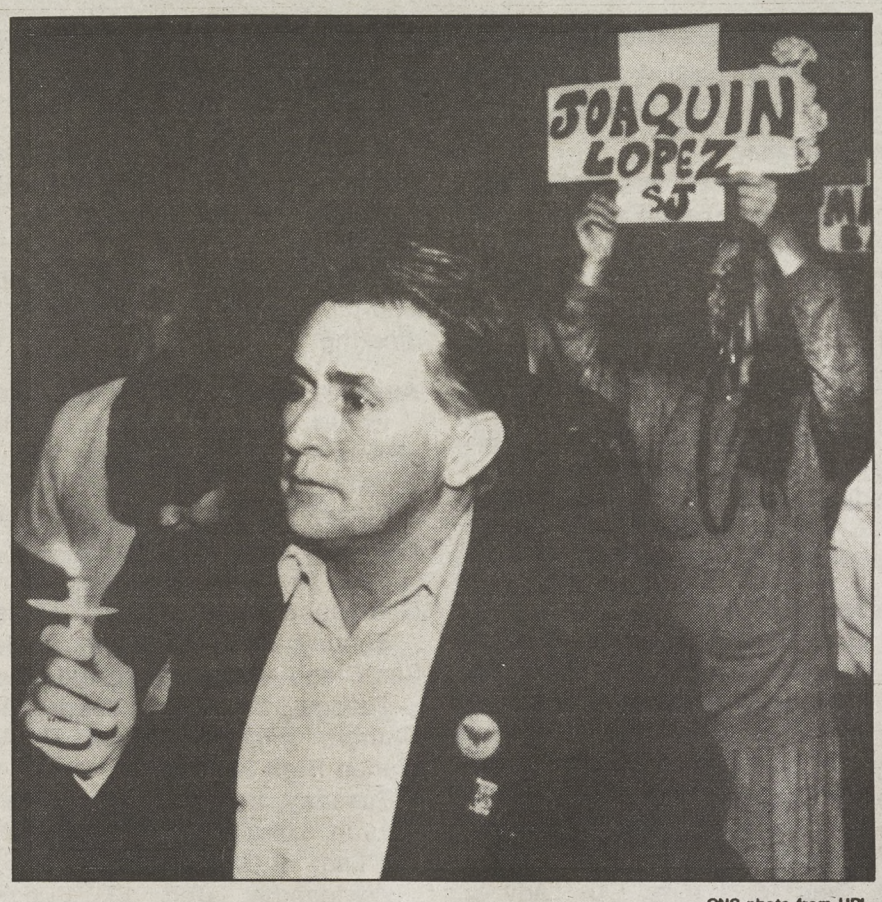
He said, "We will continue to condemn discrimination against all who are affected by (AIDS) and we will continue to increase our many pastoral and care outreach efforts to all so affected.

"At the same time, we must raise our voice with that same constancy in calling everyone to full sexual responsibility."

The archbishop said neither he nor the archdiocese "will be intimidated by threats or attacks against proclaiming the truth as God has taught us" and that the church will "pray for a change of heart among all peoples."

Protesters splattered red paint on the steps and doorways and hung posters with pictures of the archbishop on the properties of St. Basil, Immaculate Conception, St. Ambrose and St. Charles churches. The demonstrators said the red paint symbolized the blood of those who have died of AIDS.

"Archdiocesan spokesman Bill Rivera told Catholic News Service Dec. 4 that above the archbishop's picture were the words "Safe sex is a lie", and "Underneath his picture, the word 'murderer' was written in large letters," Rivera added.



CNS photo from UPI

HONORING SLAIN PRIESTS — Actor Martin Sheen takes part in a procession at Our Lady Queen of Angels Church in Los Angeles honoring the six Jesuit priests and two women who were killed in El Salvador Nov. 16. Participants attended a special Mass in reaction to the continuing Salvadoran violence.

'Conversion of Russia began with meeting'

ALEXANDRIA, S.D. — Our Lady of Fatima's promise in 1917 of the conversion of Russia has begun to come true with the meeting of the pope and Mikhail Gorbachev and the thawing of Eastern Europe, Father Robert J. Fox of the Fatima Family Apostolate said Nov. 30.

Father Fox, spiritual director of the apostolate and editor of Fatima Family Magazine, told Catholic News Service that "I am not saying that Russia is already converted, but we are seeing greens of the beginning of the conversion of Russia promised by Our Lady of Fatima."

There may well be "a natural reason," for "all the things that are happening," Father Fox said in a telephone interview from his headquarters in Alexandria, "but I believe there is a supernatural" explanation.

Pope says Marxism fading as an ideology

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II said Marxism is "completely exhausted" as an ideology — a development that presents a new opportunity for Christianity.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger agreed that Marxist political systems are "collapsing," but added a note of caution: the temptation of these kinds of ideologies has not disappeared

Both churchmen were commenting on a series of reforms introduced in Eastern Europe's communist bloc, culminating — for the moment — in the dismantling of the Berlin Wall and the opening of borders in East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Mexico diocese gets San Diego-born bishop

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II has appointed a California-born auxiliary bishop of Mexico City to be bishop of the new Diocese of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico.

The appointment of Bishop Ricardo Watty Urquidi, who was born in San Diego, was announced at the Vatican Nov. 17. The new diocese, whose center is just across the border from Laredo, Texas, will include the territory from the Archdiocese of Monterey and the Diocese of Matamoros.

Crisis shelter opens for kids in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD — Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley and Father Bruce Ritter, founder of Covenant House, announced last month the opening of a new 20-bed shelter in Hollywood for street kids.

"We celebrate joy for all of us in this city," said Mayor Bradley.

Covenant House, the largest private runaway and homeless youth agency in the country, came to Los Angeles last year. However, Mayor Bradley noted that there has been a need for more beds in shelters for youth.

VIEWPOINTS

Defending God's truth

Continued from page 4

No one is alleging, and no one could, that the bishop is violating Caesar's law in what he has done. As a matter fact, he has consistently stated in connection with the actions of Operation Rescue that he does not condone violations of the law. He is asking that the law of California and this nation be brought into conformity with God's law.

He has been appointed by the church to speak and defend God's law and to defend that church from being scandalized by a professed Catholic defending the right to deprive the unborn of life without reason and without due process. It is an issue that transcends the sinful.

In the words of Vatican II: "From the moment of its conception life must be guarded with the greatest care, while abortion and infanticide are unspeakable crimes."

Defending God's truth sometimes exacts a heavy price, but it is the right thing to do. Thank you, Bishop Maher, for doing just that.

James E. Hamilton
Coronado

Immoral laws

In the recent news coverage on Lucy Killea regarding her campaign for the 39th Senatorial district seat, it was revealed that Killea calls herself pro-choice. It should have been reported that the assemblywoman has consistently supported abortion on demand. In straightforward language, abortion on demand means fully funded, unrestricted abortions, including abortion for birth control, sex selection, late term and for convenience. She also voted against parental consent.

It should also be made known that Killea was a participant on an euthanasia panel at UCSD which was promoting the Human and Dignified Death Act, which would have allowed the doctor to kill the patient, if it had passed.

Certain statements cited from the Declaration by the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on Procured Abortion tell us Catholics, including elected officials, that a Christian can never conform to a law which would admit in principle the liceity of abortion. Nor can a Christian take part in a propaganda campaign in favor of such a law, or vote for it. In addition, one can never claim freedom of opinion as a pretext for attacking the rights of others, most especially the right to life.

My prayer today is in thanksgiving to our Creator for sending us a strong and faithful leader in Bishop Maher who cares deeply about the sanctity of life.

Dorothy Courser
San Diego

Catholic,Democrat,oxymoron

My thanks to Bishop Maher. He has confirmed a fact I have been expounding for years: the term Catholic Democrat is an oxymoron.

The Catholic and Democrat creeds are mutually exclusive.

Ed McDonough
Poway

Life begins at conception

All this talk about abortion. When does life begin? Ask any farmer; he will tell you if you plant a carrot seed in the ground, in three days or three weeks you will pull up a tiny green spring. You pulled up a potential carrot; there was life in that seed, else it would not have started to grow. So life must begin at conception.

This country went to war and some of its citizens fought and died because Hitler murdered six million Jews. Yet we have passed the seven million mark in murdered babies and all we do is argue about it. What have we become?

Evelyn Behrens
El Cajon

Harm inflicted on women

I wish to add my voice to those who fully support Bishop Maher's decision to deny the Eucharist to Lucy Killea. The only derivative product of this matter that I regret is that people like her (Catholic, prominent and so-called "pro-choice" have been allowed to inflict what may be irreparable damage to the conscience of many young American Catholic woman for over sixteen years.)

Feminism is (even more than the Civil Rights movement) the most influential intellectual movement in the United States. To the extent that feminism seeks to eliminate patterns of gender-induced discrimination, it is beneficial to all. But feminism oversteps its boundaries of legitimate expression when it seeks to deny to unborn children the right to define their existence independently of the mother.

Western philosophy, ethics and jurisprudence, until very recently, have recognized that there is a radical separation between the mother and the fetus, and between her body and the new life developing within her womb.

It is this distinction between the inherent individual identity of the mother and the inherent individual identity of the fetus, that makes Western civilization most different from Eastern societies (such as Japan) where this separation is denied, and where, subsequently, a mother is believed to have the right to kill her offspring during her suicide.

Ramón Oceguera
San Diego

Why such a big deal?

I fail to see why Bishop Leo T. Maher's preventing Assemblywoman Lucy Killea the right to receive Communion is seen as such a big deal. The Catholic Church has always maintained that abortion is murder and that it is wrong.

It has never been a "free choice" issue where Catholics can decide for themselves; especially when the choice in question involves the taking of innocent human life. The bishop was simply letting her know by his actions, that she cannot profess Catholicism while at the same time advancing a cause to which it is opposed.

What I find most disturbing is Killea's admission that she "personally opposes abortion" and "cannot as a public official impose my religious views on people who do not share those views." The oddity of this view is that it does not deal with its own implications. Is it not because it is unjustified killing? If so, how can she allow legalized homicide to continue?

Susanne de Lira Laskowski
San Diego

CALENDAR

Bishops' upcoming appointments

Bishop Leo T. Maher

Friday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m. Casa de Manana, California Mid-Winter Fairgrounds, Imperial — Concelebrated Mass.

Sunday, Dec. 10, 1 p.m., Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, San Diego — Procession honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe departs for Golden Hall, San Diego.

Sunday, Dec. 10, 2 p.m., Golden Hall, San Diego — Concelebrated Mass.

Wednesday, Dec. 13, 1 p.m., Good Shepherd Church, Mira Mesa — Advent Day of Prayer and Reflection.

Bishop Robert H. Brom

Friday, Dec. 8, 9:35 a.m., St. Charles Church, Imperial Beach — Mass for renaming of Marian High School, followed by lunch.

Friday, Dec. 8, 3 p.m., Blessed Sacrament Church, San Diego — Dedication of Casa Maria, home for single, pregnant women.

Sunday, Dec. 10, 1 p.m., Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, San Diego — Procession honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe departs for Golden Hall, San Diego.

Sunday, Dec. 10, 2 p.m., Golden Hall, San Diego — Concelebrated Mass.

Sunday, Dec. 10, 5 p.m., St. Mary's parish hall, National City — Reception for diocesan celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Thursday, Dec. 14, noon, Sacred Heart Church, Brawley — El Centro Deanery meeting.

Auxiliary Bishop Gilbert E. Chavez

Friday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m., Little Flower Haven, La Mesa — Mass for Carmelite Sisters.

Friday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m. — Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, San Ysidro — Mass.

Saturday, Dec. 9, 3 p.m., Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Otay — Mass.

Sunday, Dec. 10, 2 p.m., Golden Hall, San Diego — Concelebrated Mass.

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 9:30 a.m., St. Charles Church, Imperial Beach — Mass for Marian High School.

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, Linda Vista — Mass for Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Wednesday, Dec. 13, 1 p.m., Good Shepherd Church, Mira Mesa — Advent Day of Prayer and Reflection.

Thursday, Dec. 14, 5:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral hall, San Diego — Christmas Banquet.

Parishes

Church of the Resurrection, Escondido, continues its Advent series Dec. 11 and 18, beginning at 6 p.m. with dinner. Focus is on the various negative feelings that emerge during the holiday season.

Holy Family, Linda Vista, will sponsor the novena Masses of "Simban Gabi," (Night Mass), a religious tradition of the Philippine Islands, Dec. 16-24, 7:30 p.m. The liturgy will be celebrated in English and Filipino dialects. The novena of Masses is a Spanish tradition that was adopted by the Filipino people.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Calexico, will hold its annual Christmas party for senior citizens Dec. 17, beginning at noon. Volunteers are still needed fo prepare and serve food and help with clean-up. For details, call Mary Aguilar, 357-1822.

Our Lady of Light, Descanso, annual Christmas dance will be held Dec. 8, 8 p.m., in the parish center. Hosted by the Altar and Rosary Society. Couples are asked to bring an unwrapped Christmas gift which will be distributed to homeless children. For ticket information, call Mary Ann Webb, 445-2004. A series of inquiry classes for people seeking instruction in or about the Catholic Church will begin Jan. 8 in the parish center.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Lakeside, Altar Society, will hold its Christmas boutique and bake sale Dec. 10, 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sacred Heart, Ocean Beach, lecture series continues Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. Topic is "Our Lady and the Church — A Living Tradition of Devotion to the Mother of Christ." Presented by Father Burt Boudoin. Call 224-2746.

St. Brigid, Pacific Beach, will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1990. Events are scheduled for each month throughout the year, beginning with a Mass Feb. 4 at which Bishop Leo T. Maher will be the principal celebrant. A commemorative calendar with historical photos is available. For information, call Ann McDaniel, 488-9665. The women's club will sponsor a Christmas dinner and dance Dec. 16. Music by the L and M Trio. Tickets are $10. Call Mary Martin, 272-6025.

St. Francis, Vista, will continue its evangelization seminar 7-10 p.m., Dec. 11 and 18 in the Father Ullman Hall. Topics focus on "God's Gifts To Us." Conducted by Msgr. Douglas Regin, pastor, and Catholic lay evangelist John Clauder. For more, call 945-8008.

St. James, Solana Beach, adult education series continues with the Little Rock Series (focusing on the Galatians and Romans) through January. Call 755-7669 for dates and time. On Jan 14, 7 p.m., Father John Howard, CJM, will speak on "Psychological Meaning of Eucharistic Rituals."

St. Margaret, Oceanside, will conduct CPR training Dec. 9 and 16, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Cost is $12.50 and includes materials. Class limit is 15. Call 940-5560.

St. Patrick, North Park, will hold a "Little Elves Workshop," Dec. 9. Children, ages 3-10 can participate in games, crafts, lunch, videos and a magician. Sponsored by the youth group. Call 295-0553.

Groups

Catholic Singles Club, invites Catholic singles, ages 21-40, to participate in a variety of activities, such as dinners, dancing and sporting events. For information, send name and address to CSC, P.O. Box 80123, San Diego, CA 92138.

CHANGE, a lay ministry for separated and divorced Catholics, meets every Thursday, 7:30 p.m., St. John of the Cross parish, Lemon Grove. Group offers comfort, acceptance, encouragement and companionship. For more, call 460-6618.

Single Parents' Support Group, of Sacred Heart Church, Ocean Beach, meets every Thursday evening, 6-8 p.m. For more information, call 225-9677, or 224-9114.

Daughters O'Dublin seeks women of all ages to join the group. Members should have an interest in Irish social and cultural affairs. For more, write P.O. Box 86679, San Diego, 92138.

Koinoni (Kay-no-ne-ya), a support group for separated, divorced, remarried and widowed persons, meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of Santa Sophia parish, Spring Valley. For information, call Sister Annette, 463-6629.

Lay Carmelites meet every first Saturday at 8:30 a.m. for rosary at St. Agnes parish, Point Loma. Mass is at 9 a.m.; meeting follows. For information, call 222-0243.

Mothers of priests and seminarians host a rosary, Mass and luncheon, beginning at 11 a.m., on the third Monday of each month at St. Francis Seminary. For more information, call Virginia Hamilton, 465-7431, or Bette Murphy, 679-1719.

PATRONS is a Catholic organization for separated, divorced and widowed persons that meets every second and fourth Sundays at 6:30 p.m. in St. Therese parish hall, Del Cerro. Group offers activities, companionship and support. For details, call 449-6183 or 226-7613.

STALPAR Club, for single and widowed Catholics over 45 years of age, meets the first Sunday of the month at 4:30 p.m. in St. Vincent Church hall, Mission Hills. A social is held at 3:30 p.m.; dinner follows the meeting. For details, call 284-2761 or 697-9215.

St. Brigid Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group meets each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in St. Brigid parish hall, Pacific Beach. For further information, call 581-0952.

St. James Separated and Divorced Support Group meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m. in St. James Church, Solana Beach. For more information, call 259-1445.

Catholic Alumni Club for single professionals age 25-45. Participate in social, religious, cultural, charitable and recreational activities. For further information, call 543-4400, ext. 258.

Cancer Spiritual Support Group meets in the lounge of St. Therese Church at 3 p.m. every second and fourth Sunday of every month. Pray for yourself or loved ones. For more information, call Odette, 286-3940.

Young Widows Support Group meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in La Mesa. Call 463-5004 or 698-5684 for further information.

Single Again, meets the second and fourth Mondays each month at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Bay Park. The group provides support for those who are in the first stages of separation and divorce and offers encouragement to those who have grown beyond this initial period. For further information call 277-4545.

Concerned United Birthparents, a support group for birthparents, adoptees and those whose lives have been touched by adoption, holds monthly meetings on the fourth Saturday of the month, 1-4 p.m., in Pacific Beach. For more information, call 436-0892 in North County, and 571-0291 in the San Diego area.

Bethesda, South Bay chapter, a healing ministry and support group for separated and divorced Catholics, meets on the first and third Sunday of each month, 7:30 p.m., in the conference room at St. Rose of Lima Church, Chula Vista. For more, call 427-0230.

Catholic Alumni Club invites single Catholics, ages 25-45, to a Christmas dinner and dance Dec. 9, 7 p.m., at El Torito Restaurant, Harbor Island. Mail $20 by Dec. 4 to CACSD, P.O. Box 83293, San Diego, Ca., 92138. For information, call 563-1458.

St. Patrick Seniors can tour three Coronado homes built around the turn of the century Dec. 10. Cost is $25. Spend three days in Las Vegas Jan. 29-31 with a side trip to the Valley of Fire State Park. Cost is $107 per person twin, or $157 single. Call Carrie Johnson, 282-7109.

Knights of Columbus, Assumption Council, will sponsor a Christmas party for children Dec. 9, 2:30 p.m., at St. Rose of Lima parish hall, Chula Vista. The Christian Youth Theater will give a special presentation. Later that evening there will be a 5 p.m. Mass followed by dinner and dancing. Music provided by the Dan Rivers Trio. Cost is $25 per couple, $15 per person, $8 for young adults and children under 12 are free. For reservations, call David Matsunaga, 422-4802.

Secular Franciscans, third order, will meet Dec. 10, 2 p.m., in the Retreat Chapel at Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside.

Young Ladies Institute, Stella Maris, will sponsor a Christmas bazaar Dec. 9-10 at St. Mary's Church Center, Oceanside. Features include a boutique, crafts, baked goods, plants and a raffle.

Italian Catholic Federation, St. Vincent de Paul Branch, will hold a Christmas egg nog Sunday brunch Dec. 17, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., in the parish hall. Menu includes scrambled eggs, corned beef hash, sliced turkey breast, enchiladas, salads and desserts. Tickets are $8 for adults, $7 for children under 12. Call 299-3881, weekdays.

La Jolla Deanery Council of Catholic Women will sponsor a Christmas party for the residents of Nazareth Home, Mission Valley, Dec. 12, beginning with an 11 a.m. Mass. Each person is asked to bring two dozen cookies and a gift for a man or woman appropriately marked.

Serra Clubs meet: in Old Town the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, 224-5828; in East San Diego the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, 278-5489; in North County inland the 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 744-1497; and for North County coastal, call 436-1478.

Miscellaneous

Scapular Guild, a non-profit organization devoted to making and distributing the brown scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, needs volunteer scapular and rosary makers. To obtain a scapular, a book on purgatory and a St. Benedict medal, send $1 and a manila envelope to: Scapular Guild, P.O. Box 4651, Philadephia, PA., 19127.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store is now open in North County. The store is located at 620 N. Escondido Blvd. Volunteers and donations are needed. For further information, call 489-9882.

Natural Family Planning Instruction is offered by Dr. A. J. Stehley, an obstetrician, every first Tuesday and third Thursday at 7 p.m. in his Escondido office. No fee. For directions or further information, call Anne Fitch, 466-1507, or 747-5412.

Seeking people to keep priests in daily prayer: If you are willing to pray for a priest, deacon or brother in the San Diego diocese, please write to the St. Charles Borromeo Prayer Group, 2802 Cadiz St., San Diego, 92110. You will be mailed the name of a priest, his picture and a free prayer card. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Continental Crafts, located in Old Town, has hand-crafted items by refugees from Laos, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Romania, Poland, Vietnam, Persia and by the Hmong. The store is sponsored by Catholic Charities.

TV-Radio

The Daughters of St. Paul can be heard in Spanish, Saturday mornings, Radio KMJC, AM, at 7:30 a.m.

Family Talk from Covenant House can be heard every Sunday night on radio station KVSD, Vista, from 7-9 p.m.

"Kingdom Living," a Catholic study of the Word using the Sunday readings, is broadcast on Saturdays from 7-8 p.m. on Cox Cable-Channel 26 and on Dimension Cable. The show also airs Sundays from 7-8 p.m. on Southwestern Cable-Channel 11. Hosted by Deacons Bob Mueller and Tim Treadwell.

"Sunday Focus," a program featuring religious news from San Diego and around the world, is broadcast on Sunday at 7:00 a.m. on KGTV-Channel 10. Produced by the San Diego Ecumenical Conference.

Sunday Mass, a Catholic liturgy for television, is broadcast every Sunday at 6:30 a.m. on KNSD-TV Channel 39.

Cable only — CCN and UNI are aired by about half of the San Diego area cables, but are not listed in some TV publications. Consult your cable guide.

Sunday, Santa Misa, 7 a.m., UNI. Father Michael Manning, 11:30 p.m., CCN.

Saturday, from 3-7:30 p.m. Check CCN listing.

"Father Michael Manning" airs on television station KSCI, Channel 18, UHF, Thursdays, 4:30-5 p.m.

Listen My People featuring Archbishop Fulton Sheen and other speakers, can be heard Monday through Friday, 7:15 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. on KMJC 910 AM dial.

Have an event?

Calendar items must be received in writing by noon the Friday before publication on Thursday of the following week. Please send items at least two weeks in advance. We cannot accept items via telephone. Announcements will be published as space permits. Mail to: Calendar, *Southern Cross,* **P.O. Box 81869, San Diego, Calif. 92138.**

Compiled by Maureen Nuesca

¿Aborto? Reportaje con el Obispo Chávez

El Padre Luis F. Bernal visita al Sr. Obispo Gilberto Chávez para conocer su opinión acerca de la campaña de Lucy Killea en favor de la elección libre ("Pro-choice") sobre el aborto. He aquí nuestras prequntas y las repuestas del prelado.

Señor Obispo, ¿qué piensa Ud. respecto del problema que está planteando la asambleista Killea?

La señora Killea quiere ascender un paso más en la escala política, si es elegida senadora de California. Tiene derecho a ello, pero ha escogido un tópico muy peligroso para promover su campaña electoral.

¿Por qué parece a Ud. peligrosa la cuestión de "pro-choice" o libre elección del aborto?

Porque esto seduce a la gran mayoría de las mujeres de hoy, que están reivindicando para su sexo las máximas libertades. Por esta razón Lucy Killea ha escogido sagazmente defender una idea que le ganará muchísimos votos femeninos, pero que contiene una afirmación moral opuesta a la enseñanza Católica.

¿Entiendo que "pro-choice" significa que se da a la mujer embarazada el derecho de escoger libremente entre abortar o tener a su hijo?

Así es, y ahí está el mal: porque nadie tiene derecho legítimo a escoger, que eso significa abortar.

Esta sería la doctrina católico. Pero ¿cree Ud. que deba imponerse este mandato moral a todos? ¿También a los no católicos?

Ahí hay dos cuestiones: Primera, con sancionar a Lucy Killea no se está imponiendo a todo el mundo que acepte la doctrina católica del aborto como aniquilación criminal de una vida humana; sino se está exigiendo a una persona, que dice ser católica, que ponga de acuerdo sus procederes e ideologías con la fe que afirma profesar.

Segundo: Ud. sabe que el "no matar", el respeto por toda vida humana, no es una ley sólo católica. Los Judíos la tienen hace más de 30 siglos en su quinto mandamiento del Decálogo dictado por Yahvé. Pero, antetodo, este precepto de "no matar" está escrito desde el principio de la especie, en la naturaleza humana: el respeto a la vida es la base de todos los demás derechos fundamentales, inviolables e irrenunciables.

No veo esto claro; podría ser Ud. más explícito ?

Ud., yo, la Sra. Killea, los autores del Bill of Rights, los gestores de la Revolución Francesa, todo los que han proclamado los derechos fundamentales humanos, a la libertad, al pensamiento, a la opinión, a la palabra, etc., suponen indispensable y anterior el "derecho a la vida". Antes debe tener Ud. seguro su derecho a vivir, y después podrá opinar, hablar, trabajar, etc., libremente. Por eso en los países totalitarios, donde no hay derecho a la vida, los demás derechos tampoco existen.

¿Entonces esto que no es sólo cuestión religiosa o cristiana o católica ?

Es evidente que no. Es un asunto antropológico, social, humano, universal, como Ud. qiera llamar lo, pero no exclusivamente religioso. Si un sicólogo o médico "modernos" hablaran hoy (y lo hacen) del "derecho a hacer de la propia vida lo que se quiera, incluso destruyendola"; o "a disponer del propio cuerpo libremente, incluyendo el suicidio", ¿opina Ud. que las leyes civiles, sociales, eugenéticas (y aún higiénicas) — que no son religiosas — deberían permitir pasivamente ese libertinaje contra el bien común esencial de la especie humana?

Pero si el derecho inviolable e irrenunciable a la vida es así de fundamental y universal, por ley natural, por qué tantas leyes humanas, que parecen justas, autorizan la muerte?

La supresión de la vida no es lícita sino ante un derecho que sea superior a esa misma vida natural. Por ejemplo, en la permisión moral de matar en defensa propia, prevalece el derecho superior de la justicia: yo debo defender lo que en justicia me pertenece (empezando por mi vida) contra el ataque de un justo agresor. Y este mismo principio rige en la guerra justa, y quizá en algunos casos discutibles de la pena capital.

Y, sobre la misma línea, ¿qué piensa Ud. de la mujer embarazada por violación violenta con amenaza de muerte?

En este caso el sér que sería muerto por aborto, con eleccion de la madre, no tendría ninguna responsabilidad en el crimen de asalto del padre. El feto no es un enemigo que libremente asalta a su madre para quitarle la vida o la fama etc. Es un ser inocente. ¿Por qué debe elegirse su muerte?

Pero los niños engendrados así, y todos los no deseados, van a ser problemáticos sicológicamente, con todas las amarguras inherentes a la falta de amor y aceptación: quizá paranormales o criminales...

Usted lo ha dicho: todo depende del amor que se les prodigue generosa y rectamente, para suplir el error inicial; de parte de los padres, de las familias, de la sociedad circundante. Todos nacemos con alguna herencia negativa que debe corregir el amor justo de un hogar equilibrado.

¿Y qué decir cuando se conoce previamenete, por la eugenética, que los niños van a nacer anormales, defectuosos o con lacras congénitas como la drogadicción o el SIDA (AIDS)?

Ante todo, habría que instruir y exigir a los padres y madres que ejerzan, a su debido tiempo, la libre elección justa de no engendrar ni concebir a tales hijos. Por lo demás, los Católicos profesamos (sin imponerla a nadie, porque no somos proselitistas) la doctrina de la humanización simultánea con la concepción (con la anidación del embrión en el útero). Para nosotros todo feto humano tiene en sí, desde ese instante incial, un espíritu, principio vital, creado directamente por Dios, y por tanto inteligente y libre, a imagen del Hacedor, y que empieza a desarrollar un cuerpo con el cual formará un ser único, la persona humana.

Y aunque el cuerpo no se forme normalmente, por alguna anomalía genética, ese espíritu no pierde su naturaleza de alma humana, ni su relación inmediata con el Creador, la cual es desconocida para nosotros, como desconocida es la relación íntima de cada conciencia humana con Dios. Ignoramos pues los designios futuros del Hacedor respecto a ese sér humano de cuerpo anormal, pero de espíritu normal en sus relaciones trascendentes. ¿Con qué derecho queremos matar esa vida humana? ¿Somos nosotros el Creador?

Por lo menos, a esos niños anormales y enfermos congénitos graves (AIDS, DROGA, etc.) se les evitaría una vida llena de dolor para ellos y sus familias, si si les aborta.

En ese caso, se debería abortar a todos los que en la existencia van a contraer enfermedades graves e incurables, que pronto pronosticará la biogenética, como el cáncer, la diabetes herencial juvenil, etc. ... Habría que abortar a media humanidad. ... Esta es una objeción clásica de nuestra cultura y civilización del placer, del bienestar, de la ignorancia sobre el dolor, de la ilusión de una vida feliz sin más allá. Todos tenemos que morir. Todos padeceremos alguna enfermedad mortal, aunque sea sólo la senectud. Nadie va a escapar absolutamanete al dolor. ¿Por qué no reconocerle pues, a éste, el sentido de purificación y redención que le dió Cristo, para resucitar a lo definitivo?

¿En conclusión?

En conclusión, por qué en vez de gastar centenares de billones de dólares en armamentos sofisticadísimos, que por años yacen inútiles oxidándose en sótanos (destinados a matar). Y en vez de gastar millones en asesinar inocentes, obispos, sacerdotes, monjas, campesinos pobres, persiguiendo el ridículo fantasma de in "comunismo" que ya murió bajo ruinas del muro de Berlín, y que ya ni en Rusia existe, porque ni siquiera el señor Gorbachev es comunista.

¿Por qué en vez de estas ridiculeces, no se atiende a que los jóvenes y adultos se eduquen para la "pro-choice" de no engendrar ni concebir cuando no deben? ¿Y en vez de millones para clínicas abortivas llenas de assesinato e infanticidio, por qué no gastarlos en atender y educar a los niños que nacen enfermos y que en el futuro pueden damos las magníficas sorpresas del genio?

Agradecimos al Obispo Chavez esta serie de valiosísimos mensajes, destinados especialmente a formar la conciencia de los Hispanos en este debatido y complicado tema del aborto.

Y para despedirnos agregó el Obispo: "quiero decirles a todos los Católicos Hispanos, que tengan siempre el valor y la lealtad de hacer su elección por la vida, según la doctrina de la Iglesia y la ley natural; y nunca la elección por el asesinato del aborto."

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11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14

Church groups act against drug crimes

Members meet with S.D. police captains

By Maureen Nuesca
Southern Cross

SAN DIEGO — Within a five-week period San Diego Organizing Project organizations, including three San Diego Catholic parishes, and an estimated 1,300 organizational members are meeting with captains of the San Diego Police Department's Southeast, East and Central divisions.

Christ the King, St. Jude Shrine and Our Lady of Angels parishes, all community organizations of SDOP, have already met with the commanding officers from the neighborhood police department to conduct a public evaluation process of local law enforcement compliance to the drug problem in those areas.

Some 200 members of Christ the King Community Organization met with Captain Nancy Goodrich of the Central Division Nov. 20. At that meeting Captain Goodrich agreed to the following:

- To make drugs a division priority and recognized the need for a coordinated plan and comprehensive strategy.
- To act upon five drug locations identified by the parish.
- To keep an ongoing relationship with the parish to help clean up the church grounds.
- To meet again within 60 days.

Earlier this year, Christ the King members identified more than 50 locations where drug dealing was a major problem. Captain Goodrich also promised to act upon these sites as well, said William King, a member of the community organization.

Our Lady of Angels Community Organization also met with Captain Goodrich in November. Again she agreed to make drugs a division priority and act upon specific drug sites identified by the parish. She also agreed to develop a plan to stop prostitution on Market Street between 17th and 24th streets.

"We feel we have to do something. This is a time for empowerment," said Father Thomas "T.J." Jennings, associate pastor of Our Lady of Angels parish. "It also brings the community closer together in prayer. People are so happy when any type of movement happens," he said.

Father Jennings also noted that since the meeting with Captain Goodrich, one of the houses identified as a priority drug location has already been raided.

Some 250 members of the St. Jude's Shrine of the West Community organization met Dec. 6 with Captain Jerry Sanders of the Southeast Division. Father Henry Rodriguez, associate pastor, said the discussion focused upon ways to alleviate the drug problem. The group also pointed out various drug dealing areas and residences that are suspected drug centers.

Father Rodriguez said the community hopes to increase the safety of its residents, of families and the future of the children. "The community wants to work with the police department — we can accomplish things if we work together," he added.

Subsequent SDOP evaluation sessions are planned for the following dates: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Community Organization, Dec. 11 and St. Stephen's Church of God in Christ Community Organization, Dec. 12.



Photo by Robert Burnett

WELCOME — Coadjutor Bishop Robert H. Brom greets women Religious of the Diocese of San Diego at a welcoming celebration held for him Dec. 3 in Founders Chapel at the University of San Diego. The bishop talked with the sisters following The Office of Readings, at which he presided, commemorating the ninth anniversary of the martyrdom of the four United States church women in El Salvador. "We found the bishop to be very gracious and friendly," said Sister Agnes Murphy, RSCJ.

Pope-Gorbachev meeting 'rich in promise'

Continued from page 1

Edward I. Cassidy, deputy Vatican secretary of state, Dec. 2.

"He appreciates the role the Holy Father has played in Eastern Europe, especially in helping bring about those developments in a peaceful, a patient way, by always making clear the principles upon which developments should take place," said Archbishop Cassidy.

The archbishop said the next steps needed were establishment of an official Soviet-Vatican negotiating channel and passage of a Soviet freedom of conscience law. These will set the framework for resolving church-state problems, he added.

While the pope and Gorbachev met in private for 76 minutes to establish the overall guidelines of Soviet-Vatican relations, Archbishop Cassidy was part of a parallel meeting of their top aides to discuss specific issues.

Leaders of the delegations at that meeting were Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Agostino Casaroli and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

The pope and Gorbachev exchanged public speeches at the end of their private session.

Gorbachev said the meeting opened the door to future diplomatic relations by reaching "agreement in principle to give official status" to their contacts.

Diplomatic relations were broken in 1917 when the Communist Party came to power with its belief that an atheistic political system was the wave of the future and religion a relic of the past.

Soviet believers "have a right to satisfy their spiritual needs," Gorbachev said. "Shortly, a law on freedom of conscience will be adopted in our country", and church-state problems are being handled "in a spirit of democracy and humanism and within the framework of perestroika," he added.

Gorbachev spoke after the pope asked for a law "to guarantee to all persons the full exercise of the right to religious freedom."

The pope alluded to the specific problem of legalizing the Ukrainian Catholic Church by saying the new law must include Latin-rite and Eastern-rite Catholics.

Ukrainian Catholics form an Eastern-rite church which became illegal in 1946 when its members were told to join the Russian Orthodox Church. An underground church has continued. Some say the Ukrainian chruch has about 5 million members.

"Many Catholic communities are today eagerly awaiting the opportunity of re-establishing themselves and of being able to rejoice in the leadership of their pastors," the pope said.

The pope also supported perestroika if it helps to "protect and integrate the rights and duties of individuals and peoples, so that peace may be ensured in Europe and the world."

The meeting "will hardly fail to have a powerful impact on world opinion," he said. "It will "be interpreted as singularly meaningful: a sign of the times that have slowly matured, a sign that is rich in promise," the pope said.

Archbishop Cassidy said the first step now is to establish "a form of official contact" between the Vatican and the Soviet Union, "not necessarily immediately a full diplomatic mission."

Dispensation granted for Mass Jan. 1

ALCALA PARK — Bishop Leo T. Maher has granted the faithful of the diocese "a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on New Year's Day, Jan 1, 1990.

He granted the dispensation, "in virtue of Canon 87 of the Code of Canon Law," for the following pastoral reasons:

- "Because of the previous week's double celebration of the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day (the following day) and because New Year's Day (which falls on a Monday this year) comes at the end of a particularly busy schedule for priest's, parishes and people ... .
- "Although Jan. 1 remains the Octave of Christmas on which the church celebrates the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and the World Day of Prayer for Peace, for most in our United States culture New Year's Day is not a day of particular religious and ecclesial significance.
- "Attendance at Mass on New Year's Day is normally ... low, and since this coming year the day is a Monday, one could anticipate an even lower attendance rate. Many of our Catholics are then troubled in their consciences about missing Mass on New Year's Day and must await an opportunity to seek forgiveness in the Rite of Penance."

Bishop Maher said "we need to be clear that the reason for granting this dispensation is our concern for the pastoral and spiritual welfare of our people, and in no way is to be interpreted in a way which encourages minimalism towards our responsibilities faithful Catholics."



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